

**Upper Marlboro, MD**  
**District Court Trial Session**  
**June 10, 2022**

Most of the cases this morning were from two to three years ago, since the court is dealing with the COVID-19 backlog. Most of the morning's cases either were continued or resulted in bench warrants because loved ones were not in court.

Mr. K did not appear for his case, and ASA Jason Alston said that he had been "shot in the head" and may be deceased. ASA Alston asked for a bench warrant. Judge LaKeecia Allen said that she would not issue a bench warrant for someone who may be deceased, and ordered a continuance. (We could not find an obituary for Mr. K.)

A case not on the docket was declared "abated by death," with the judge citing an obituary, which we also found. The charges, driving under the influence, dated from July of 2021, and the loved one appears not to have been in jail when she died.

Mr. L was not in court when his case was called, and Judge Scott Carrington issued a bench warrant for his arrest. The two witnesses who had shown up for that case left the courtroom at that point. However, Mr. L showed up near the end of the docket, and PD Andrea Smith told the judge that he had been in the courthouse but had been directed to the wrong courtroom. She asked that the bench warrant be withdrawn. Judge Carrington agreed and reset the case. This was a better outcome than the other week when Judge Brian Denton ordered that a woman in a similar situation be handcuffed and taken out of the courtroom.